

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 070797
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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NEA:ALATHERTON
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
INFO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 070797

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, IS, LE, SO

SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON -- SADAT VIEWS

REF: CAIRO 8588

1. RE SADAT SUGGESTION, PARAS. 2 AND 3 REFTEL FOR USING
UNSC ACTION ON SOUTH LEBANON AS BASIS FOR LAUNCHING
"INTERNATIONAL EFFORT" TO SOLVE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM, IF
YOU BELIEVE YOU OWE A REPLY ON THIS, YOU SHOULD TELL
MUBARAK THE FOLLOWING:

--WE READ WITH INTEREST AND CONSIDERED CAREFULLY SADAT'S
IDEA OF USING UNSC ACTION ON SOUTH LEBANON AS BASE FROM
WHICH TO LAUNCH INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO SOLVE PALESTINIAN
PROBLEM. OUR FEELING WAS THAT TO OPEN UN OR OTHER INTER-
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NATIONAL DISCUSSION OF OVERALL PALESTINIAN PROBLEM AT THIS
TIME WOULD YIELD VERY DIVISIVE DEBATE BETWEEN VARIOUS
OPPOSED VIEWS AND, THEREFORE, RISK DIVERSION FROM
NEGOTIATING PROCESS GENERATED BY SADAT'S INITIATIVE, WHICH
WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE OFFERS BEST TRACK FOR PURSUING PEACE
PROCESS.

--IN ADDITION, WE HAVE FELT IT IMPORTANT TO KEEP FOCUS IN
UNSC ON IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND INTRO-
DUCTION OF UN FORCE DESIGNED TO HELP GOL REESTABLISH ITS
AUTHORITY IN SOUTH LEBANON. WE HAVE APPRECIATED EGYPTIAN
COOPERATION IN THESE EFFORTS.

--IN MEANTIME, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT NOT TO SAY ANYTHING
THAT WOULD GIVE RISE TO PUBLIC SPECULATION WE OR EGYPT
ARE CONSIDERING A DIFFERENT COURSE THAN WE ARE NOW ON.
THIS WOULD PLAY INTO HANDS OF CRITICS LOOKING FOR
AMMUNITION TO SUPPORT THEIR CHARGE THAT SADAT INITIATIVE
HAS FAILED. VANCE

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